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Winter hits Holland with foot-plus of snow



FIRST SNOW — Thursday’s snowstorm, which continued late into Saturday afternoon, brought over a foot of snow to the West Michigan area. Shovel-laden students were spotted scraping cars and lacing up their snow boots.



According to the Grand Rapids Press’ online coverage of the storm, the excess of snow was caused by what forecasters explain as a mesolow. “The phenomenon creates an area of low pressure, which can stagnate a particular weather system,” the website reads. Mesolows can be intensified in lake-shore areas, like Holland.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FLICKR

Hope continues search for college’s 12th president

Chris Russ
Co EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hope’s Presidential Search Committee is continuing its search for the college’s 12th president following Dr. James Bultman’s retirement announcement last spring.

The committee narrowed down a broad field of applicants to two individuals in November.

Both candidates spoke to Hope faculty members and to the student body in December and fielded questions from both groups. After this series of presentations, both candidates removed themselves from consideration.

Since then, the committee has renewed its efforts to seek out a candidate to replace Bultman upon his retirement at the end of the academic year. The committee includes student representative Stephanie Skaff (’12), Hope faculty committee representatives Christopher Barney and Annie Dandavati, committee chair David Lowry and search consultant R. Thomas Williamson.

“After the finalists dropped out the committee responded by realizing the search was not complete. We still had a charge from the Board of Trustees that we needed to accomplish. As sad as we were, the decision did not make us any less engaged in the process. We responded with an attitude that there was someone else out there who will be a better fit for Hope College,” Skaff said.



President James Bultman

According to Lowry, who practices neurosurgery in Holland, the committee is currently in discussions with a number of candidates and will present the status of the search to the Board of Trustees on Jan. 26-27. Lowry expressed confidence in Hope’s ability to move forward with the presidential search.

“Hope College remains an institution with a compelling mission supported by a strategic plan upon which it is executing exceedingly well, in great part because of its highly capable faculty and staff. Thus, the mission itself, and the highly relational nature of the Hope community all put Hope in the position of being able to attract highly qualified individuals as candidates to be its twelfth president,” Lowry said.

“I have no doubt Hope will succeed in securing as its next president an individual with the highest qualifications for the position,” Lowry said.

Commemorate civil rights this week

Mary Kelso
GUEST WRITER

“I have a dream...” You most likely know these powerful words the civil rights activist, Martin Luther King Jr., proclaimed from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963. But have you heard the rest of the speech?

Do you know King’s story or the story of the civil rights movement? Are you aware of how racial equality was advanced in our country and who helped achieve this great feat?

This week, Jan. 16-21, is Civil Rights Celebration Week

at Hope College. This is your opportunity to learn about and honor the people and events that made the progression of civil rights possible.

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Luncheon started off the week in Maas Auditorium on Tuesday.

The event featured Dr. Antwi Akom, a professor of environmental sociology in the Department of African American Studies at San Francisco State University. His keynote address was titled “What the Civil Rights Movement Can Teach the Climate Justice Movement: Re-

Imagining Dr. King’s Message for Today’s Eco-Visionaries”.

The Multicultural Student Organizations and Campus Ministries sponsored the Chapel Service on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. It featured readings of King’s speeches.

Also on Wednesday morning was the Civil Rights Commemorative March which began at the anchor located in front of Graves Hall and concluded at Martha Miller’s first floor rotunda. The march, honors all people who have contributed to social justice and equality for people of all backgrounds.

To conclude the week, the Social Activities Committee will host the film “Better Life” on Friday and Saturday nights, Jan. 20 and 21. The film will run in Vanderwerf 102 at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. both evenings.

“Better Life” tells the story of an immigrant father who desires to give his son a better life than he had, and together they learn that family is the center of the American Dream.

King once said, “An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all of humanity.”

The historic Civil Rights Movement may have been something of the 1900s but civil rights is still an issue that must be addressed today; the fight is not over. We are not all equal, nor all free, and there is no better way to improve this world than to learn from the past.

Take this week, as an opportunity to commemorate the people who started the movement and contemplate how it continues to be applicable today. Let us continue to make Martin Luther King, Jr.’s promising dream a reality.

THIS WEEK AT HOPE

Wednesday-Saturday Jan. 18-21
Knickerbocker film series
"Restless"
 Knickerbocker 7:30 p.m.

Friday Jan. 20
Hypnotist Frederick Winters
 Maas 8:30 p.m.

Friday-Saturday Jan. 20-21
SAC movie "Better Life"
 VanderWerf 102 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

Attention anyone interested in studying abroad! The deadline to apply for off-campus study for the fall 2012 semester or the entire academic year of 2012-2013 is Wednesday, Feb. 1. To pick up an application or to ask a question about off campus study, go to the Fried International Center on the first floor of Martha Miller.

SUSTAINABILITY LECTURE

On Monday, Jan. 23, at 3 p.m., Dr. Luke Gascho of the Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College, will be giving a presentation in Winants Auditorium.

Greene a strong advocate for students, diversity

La'shawn Donelson
 GUEST WRITER

As director of Hope's Office of Multicultural Education for the past eight, Vanessa Greene's primary role is to provide leadership and direction in the areas of diversity and programming. But Greene is also a strong advocate for students.

Greene is concerned about students' cultural competence but also focuses heavily on students' academic, personal, spiritual, professional and career success.

"I came to Hope College because I love working with students as they give life a greater meaning and purpose. Most students are eager to grow and learn and to be in a position to impact their development is a privilege," Greene said.

Greene is recognized as a servant leader and has an open door policy. She always pushes aside any task or project that she is working on to serve students when they walk into her office.

Israel Moore (14') says, "Vanessa is a perfect role model for being a successful and classy African American woman. She is kind, passionate about what she does, intelligent and courteous."

Lily Poon (12') says, "Vanessa has encouraged me throughout my four years at Hope to be a leader. She has provided me on numerous occasions to step in

leadership positions with the office of multicultural education events. She has encouraged me to stay true to who I am as an individual and not to compromise to fit in with the majority."

Greene serves on various committees to assist in creating an equitable, diverse, safe and inclusive campus community. Some committees include At Risk Committee, Multicultural Affairs Committee, First Generation Student Committee, West Michigan Presidents Compact Committee, GLCA Committee on Institutional

"The goal of the office is to break down barriers and build bridges. Therefore, we must create an environment where we are willing to grow and learn together.
— VANESSA GREENE
"

Commitment to Educational Excellence and the West Michigan Strategic Alliance.

She also serves on national organizations including the National Association for Multicultural Education, National Council of Negro



PHOTO BY ANN MARIE PAPARELLI

CAMPUS LEADER—Vanessa Greene's door is always open to students.

Women, and National Association of College Student Personnel. She is the president of the Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, a public service organization committed to youth outreach and serving the community.

Greene's passion, dedication and commitment to diversity is recognized by the growth and visibility of diversity on Hope's campus. Her influence has touched many corners of Hope College which is evidenced by the development of new programs and initiatives.

She says collaboration is the key to progress and works with numerous departments including Student Development, Phelps Scholars, International Education, Campus Ministries and Academic Divisions.

She attributes OME's success largely to the leadership of

Alfredo Gonzales, associate provost and dean of international and multicultural education; Latoya Gates, assistant director; Sara Frye, office coordinator; Paola Munoz, student intern; and faculty support and student leaders.

"The goal of the office is to break down barriers and build bridges. Therefore, we must create an environment where we are willing to grow and learn, together," Greene said.

"We must allow ourselves to be challenged, as we all have a history and culture that has formed our beliefs, values and attitudes and perspectives," Greene said. "Listening and learning from others is a transformative process as it opens doors to reflect and see the world from a broader lens. This makes multicultural education a complex, but exciting experience."

Hope student arrested

Whitney Doubleday

GUEST WRITER

Claire Call

CAMPUS EDITOR

A Hope College student is expected to face trial on criminal charges after he allegedly abducted and assaulted his former girlfriend, also a Hope College student, in an incident that began on campus Dec. 5.

Alexander Brock, 19, of Park Township, has withdrawn from Hope College after being arraigned in Holland District Court on Dec. 6. on felony charges of unlawful imprisonment and assault with intent to commit great bodily harm. On Dec. 21 Brock waived his right to a probable cause hearing, and his case is set to be heard in Grand Haven this spring.

Brock allegedly approached his former girlfriend on East 14th Street around 8 a.m. on Dec. 5 and forced her into her car, according to a Dec. 7 report in The Holland Sentinel. In a parking lot on the city's north side, he allegedly then forced her into his car and drove to his parents' home in Park Township.

At his parents' home, Brock allegedly assaulted his former

girlfriend but was stopped by his father, according to The Sentinel.

The victim was treated at Holland Hospital for medical injuries and also received support from the Hope College staff, according to a statement the college released Dec. 6 informing campus of the incident. Hope also made the college's counseling center available to anyone in need.

"This is a very difficult time for two Hope College families and their friends. As a car-

ing community, please support them with your thoughts and prayers," the campus statement said.

Brock's bond was set at \$100,000 and a condition of his bond release is that he must stay away from Hope's campus. Brock had no prior criminal record.

"It is a real tragedy for both individuals and I feel for them as their lives have been so dramatically affected. My prayers are with each of them and their families as they work to put their lives back together," said Richard Frost, dean of students.



Alexander Brock

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Republican presidential primary 2012

Five candidates continue to vie for their party's nomination

Cory Lakatos
WORLD Co-EDITOR

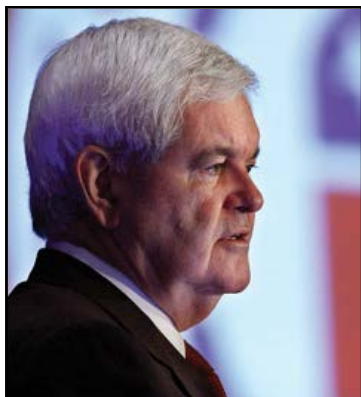
The presidential primary for the state of Michigan is on Feb. 28 – have you decided who you're going to vote for? The Democratic Party is sure to nominate current President Barack Obama, but the

nomination for the Republican Party is still in question. To help you get started on your search for your preferred candidate, here are short bios of the Republican contenders:



Mitt Romney

Though Romney failed to capture the Republican nomination in 2008, he began the current race as the frontrunner and has continued to maintain that position by winning the Iowa caucuses. As a wealthy businessman who headed a private equity firm as well as the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, the former governor of Massachusetts has relied on his executive and business experience to win support. On Monday, Jon Huntsman dropped out of the race and endorsed Romney.



Newt Gingrich

Gingrich was the Speaker of the House back in the '90s, though he resigned from that position after four years when the Republicans lost seats in the mid-term elections. Since that time he has been vocal in forwarding his conservative views and criticizing Democrats in books, films and speeches. He holds a doctorate in history and is considered one of the frontrunners in the primary, especially by those who are seeking a conservative alternative to Mitt Romney.



Rick Perry

Perry is currently the governor of Texas and has appealed to a record of fiscal conservatism and job creation. Though his entry into the race was applauded by many conservatives and evangelicals, giving him an early lead, poorly received debate performances proved to be major setbacks. His campaign advertisement "Strong," which appealed to evangelical Christians and social conservatives, was sharply criticized by proponents of gay rights.



Rick Santorum

Though something of a dark horse candidate with far less money than the frontrunners, Santorum narrowly lost to Mitt Romney in the Iowa caucuses. He practiced law before being elected to the House in 1990 and then the Senate in 1994; he lost his reelection campaign in 2006. Santorum is known for his opposition to gay marriage and abortion and has therefore been favored by many social conservatives.



Ron Paul

Paul is unique among his Republican rivals; he opposes both the war on drugs and the American military presence worldwide and has called for the abolition of the Federal Reserve and the IRS. Enthusiastically supported by many libertarians, the Texas congressman and former obstetrician is now managing his third presidential bid. Currently, he is neither a major threat to the frontrunners nor a candidate worthy of being ignored.

Iranian court sentences U.S. citizen to death

Anneliese Goetz
WORLD Co-EDITOR

A court in Tehran has sentenced Iranian-American Amir Mirzai Hekmati to death. According to the BBC, Iran is accusing him of working for the CIA and "trying to implicate Iran in terrorism."

Hekmati is of Iranian descent but his family lives in Arizona. According to an interview with the Associated Press, his mother, Behnaz Hekmati, insists that he had gone to Iran to meet his grandmothers.

Hekmati is a former U.S. Marine. According to his father, Ali Hekmati, a college professor in Flint, Amir Hekmati joined the Marines in 2001, serving as an Arabic translator.

The BBC reports, "Iran says that, as a former Marine, Mr. Hekmati received training at U.S. bases in Afghanistan and Iraq before being sent to Iran for his alleged intelligence-gathering mission."

State department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland refutes this accusation, saying: "Allegations that Mr. Hekmati either worked for, or was sent to Iran by the CIA are simply untrue." Nuland states that the U.S. and its allies are still trying to confirm reports of Hekmati's death sentence. Nuland said that if the sentence is true, it is

strongly condemned by the U.S.

What is known is that on Dec. 18, 2011, Hekmati made a confession that was broadcast on Iran's state television. In it,

ans, whose judicial and political system place great importance on confessions, this televised statement proves Hekmati's guilt. According to Iran's semi-

systems and act as a new source for the CIA, I had no intention of undermining the country."

He was put on trial later in December, supposedly resulting

falsely accusing people of being spies, of eliciting forced confession, and of holding innocent Americans for political reasons."

It is unclear how things will proceed from here. Iranian-American relations have recently been strained by reports of increased nuclear activity in Iran. It is predicted that Hekmati will try to appeal the decision with Iran's Supreme Court.

According to the BBC, "The U.S. state department said Swiss diplomats in Iran – who handle Washington's interests because of an absence of US-Iran diplomatic relations – were not allowed to see Mr. Hekmati before his trial." This has further incensed Americans and increased the tension between Iran and the West.

This comes after the U.S. has moved to impose new sanctions on Iran's banking system and the European Union has moved to impose an embargo on Iran's oil exports. Tehran insists that the nuclear program it is developing is for peaceful purposes, not weaponry. Whether or not Iran goes through with the execution is expected to greatly affect U.S.-Iran relations.

According to the BBC, "Hekmati has 20 days to appeal against the sentence."



DEATH SENTENCE— Hekmati at his December trial by the Iran Revolutionary Court. He is accused of being a member of the CIA and attempting to infiltrate Iranian intelligence systems. The U.S. is still trying to confirm Hekmati's execution.

he admitted to being involved with the CIA, which was trying to infiltrate Iran's intelligence system. For many Irani-

official news agency, Fars, Hekmati said: "I was deceived by the CIA...Although I was appointed to break into Iran's intelligence

in the death sentence that has left many Americans reeling.

According to Nuland, "The Iranian regime has a history of

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

winter



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA POTTS

As you step back into the world of academia, remember that it is necessary to set foot outside of the library. Here are some suggestions of things to accomplish this semester:

Go ice skating

For those who are willing to bundle up and brave the cold, Rosa Parks Circle, located at the center of Monroe Avenue and Pearl Street in the heart of Downtown Grand Rapids, offers \$1 ice skating with skate rentals (Picture I.D. required). Hours of operation vary, but weekend hours run

from 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Not a fan of the cold? For those not wanting to make the 40-minute trek to GR, the Edge Ice Arena of Holland opens its ice to the public for limited hours each day. Admission is \$5, skate rental \$2, and hours are posted at www.edgeicearena.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA POTTS

Attend a concert

Big names like Nickelback, Death Cab for Cutie and Hot Chelle Rae are among the bands slated to take the stage in West Michigan this winter and spring.

Although it may be a bit more expensive than seeing a movie, a live performance and the atmosphere at a concert is something that cannot be replicated in a dark theater.

Here's a list of concerts coming to a city near you:

Matt Nathanson

The Intersection
Friday, March 9, 7 p.m.
\$17/\$20

Nickelback

VanAndel Arena
Thursday, April 12, 6 p.m.
\$49.50 - \$85

The Black Keys

VanAndel Arena
Sunday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.
\$29.50 - \$49.50

Death Cab for Cutie

Calvin College
Saturday, April 14, TBA
\$TBD

Needtobreathe w/ Ben Rector

The Intersection
Monday, March 26, 7 p.m.
\$22/\$25

Hot Chelle Rae

The Intersection
Wednesday, April 25, 6 p.m.
\$15/\$18

Hit the slopes

Make the most of the wintry winds that have recently blanketed Michigan with a fresh coat of snow by planning a day (or weekend) trip to the ski slopes. Popular destinations among West Michiganders include Bittersweet Ski Resort located in Ostego, Pando Winter Sports Park in Rockford, Boyne Mountain in Boyne Falls, and Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville.

Aleesa and Lindsey's winter tasks

1. Have your picture taken with the Abominable Snowman.
2. Attend the national curling tournament in Regina, Saskatchewan.
3. Learn how to spell Saskatchewan.
4. Adopt a penguin.
5. Build and live in an igloo in President Bultman's backyard.
6. Cross country ski in the Pine Grove.
7. Go seal watching off the coast of Lake Michigan.
8. Go ice fishing in the center of Lake Macatawa.
9. Lick a flag pole.
10. Tebow on top of a snow plow.

Dr. Cliff Huxtable

Christopher Russ
Co Editor-in-Chief



It is now the last semester of my senior year. But I'll try not to write one of those looking-back-on-it-all columns during my final semester at The Anchor. So instead, for this week's column, I'm going to write about one of my fictional heroes, Dr. Heathcliff Huxtable of "The Cosby Show."

I didn't watch a ton of TV as a kid, and neither did the rest of my family, but I distinctly remember sitting on the couch together and watching the Huxtables on Nick at Nite. I thought the show was hilarious then, and after receiving two seasons of the show on DVD for Christmas, I can confirm that my initial reaction to the show is still very accurate. And I think there is more to the show than I picked up on the first time around.

Someday when I become a father, the first guy I'll call when I have questions about how to act as a good father will be my own dad. I'll try as hard as I can to remember the lessons he taught me and I'll try to pass them on to my kids. But after fist consulting with him for advice, I might also re-watch a few episodes of "The Cosby Show" as supplemental ma-

terial. Dr. Huxtable always knew how to calm down Rudy and he always knew how to keep Theo's antics from getting out of hand. I know it probably helps a lot when someone is writing the script to make you look cool, but I'll still probably end up trying a few of his parenting techniques over the years.

Besides being presented as a great father, Bill Cosby's role on the show defies the sad archetype that a modern sitcom father has become. Sure he likes hoagies, and sure Mrs. Huxtable ran the show occasionally, but Cliff was still very much an authority figure to be reckoned with in his household. He is far from being one of the incompetent, irresponsible or lazy couch potatoes that have populated popular sitcoms over the past decade. He is often shown getting home very late after difficult nights at his job as a successful doctor at the local hospital.

The show also has an innate wholesomeness that is hardly existent on television today, and it manages to do this without being boring or dumbed down. I love a smart, acerbic, pop-culture referencing show like "Seinfeld" or "30 Rock" as much as the next guy, but those shows just don't make me feel as happy as "The Cosby Show" does.

In a culture that constantly clamors for a return to the values that our country was built on, I think scheduling more "Cosby Show" re-runs would be a nice first step.

Learning practical skills

What they don't teach
you in college

Erin McIntyre
Columnist



When I was in high school, I worked at a hardware store for over two years. While this less-than-exciting attempt for me to save money and gain responsibility was not my dream job, I learned some essential skills that I have undoubtedly carried with me. I learned, for example, how to assemble basic products with simple tools, count and balance cash (something that will also prove useful in my exciting future career as an accountant), and interact and deal with the occasionally unreasonable person. There are many ways to gain these aptitudes, but my recent realization has been that as a college senior, many of my friends and myself, both at Hope and other schools, lack some very essential skills to thrive on our own.

While I acknowledge that I am also a member of this group, as I am in no way prepared to cook a gourmet meal (and by gourmet I mean anything that doesn't come in a package with a catchy name and animated instructions) or change a tire, I have been surprised by some skills that many of my peers are lacking. One of my friends, a pre-med student who can do any type of chemical reaction equation (or whatever they do) has no idea how to get anywhere without the help of Google Maps and his smart phone.

Smart phone apps pose an entirely new set of crafts that we are also apparently incapable of doing on our own. While I don't personally own a smart phone, scrolling through the Apple app store, I have learned that we now also apparently need apps to find restaurants, inform us of the weather outside our window, and of course, keep us entertained during any split second of boredom by flinging angry birds or flicking pigs. Another friend of mine brought a car to school for the first time our junior year and asked me to go with her to the gas station, because she had never even pumped gas.

With the emphasis that our educational system, especially for those going onto higher education, places purely on intellectual ability, it seems that many college students have become a new breed of intellectuals with no practical skills. While our parents were busy peeling our oranges and driving us to SAT prep classes, we forgot to ask how to take care of ourselves in the event that we may eventually want to live on our own, purchase and maintain a car, etc.

Learning from each season

Kate Schramper
Columnist



I live in a house with three other girls, and once flip flop season ended, the shoe rack by our front door started to fill up, and the fact that we now have snow has done nothing to make our collection get any smaller.

We have four pairs of winter boots sitting in a row right now, some with clumps of snow still clinging damply to the sides. Stuck in between them are rain boots and dress boots, left over from last week when we had such unusually warm weather and no snow.

The closer you get to the actual shoe rack, the smaller the footwear gets. Tall boots are replaced by Converse and Toms, and running shoes squat beside dainty little flats.

A couple pairs of sandals huddle together next to the rainbow of flip-flops crammed onto one shelf, waiting for spring and summer to come back once more.

Personally, I'm quite content to have the snow boots out for a while. We haven't gotten much yet, for one thing. But even if we had, I'd still be fine. I love snow, and I'm convinced that Holland gets the prettiest lake-effect snow ever. So as far as I'm concerned, the snow is welcome.

Not all of my housemates agree, however: one in particular hates the cold and snow, and the sight of those swirling

When talking to friends, I have realized that I am more impressed by a peer knowing how to sew on a button than being able to write a 20 page paper about global politics. Graduating will be quite a shock when we realize that there isn't actually a department known as the "Physical Plant" that magically appears every time a toilet clogs in the real world. I don't want to seem whiny and disappointed with my educational years, and I don't think there is really any one person to blame (parents, schools or us), I just think that there was a rather large hole in the curriculum for many of my peers and myself. Most of us, however, as college students, will probably have no choice but to learn the hard way.

A few months ago, one of my Hope friends and I were looking at photos of one of my high school friends with her boyfriend. "Are they going to get married?" he asked. Surprised by the question, I stumbled, "Uh, I don't think so..." I said, trying to get a hold of how to explain it. "People from my high school, they don't really get married," I replied awkwardly. While I didn't mean to imply that everybody who graduates from my high school is doomed to a life of singlehood, it was my complex way of saying that to my high school friends, the idea of getting married within the next few years is not even on their radar. Not to my surprise, my friend and her boyfriend broke up about a month after that conversation.

Coming from a relatively liberal town in Northwest Indiana, I was surprised to learn about this idea of "ring by spring" when I first came to Hope. I was confused by the idea, but it was never something I thought about until I actually noticed people getting engaged and realized it actually happened. Before I go on, however, I would like to say that I have many engaged friends, all of whom I am very happy for.

Next year I will be moving to a new city by myself to start a new job, and I couldn't be more excited. I'm excited to find a place on my own for the first time. I'm excited to ride my bike alone and find my own new favorite places. I'm excited to simply see where life takes me. Maybe I'm a loner, or maybe I'm just not afraid to be alone, but I love doing things by myself. I love the idea of establishing my own life and seeing where someone else fits into it, rather than factoring someone else in while creating that new life.

For the first time, I will be completely independent of my parents, and I'm not in a rush to be accountable to someone else again. While I'm sure my perspective could change anytime if I did meet someone I saw myself with, until then, I'm not afraid to be alone. So to those who don't have that ring by spring, enjoy your independence, and don't be afraid to create a new adventure, even if you're alone.

flakes is far from welcome. She'd love it if it could be spring and summer all year, and flip flops and sandals never needed to be shoved into a corner of the shoe rack to make room for big, fuzzy boots.

It's not that I dislike summer. On the contrary, I love it. I love laying on a beach in the sun, and the smell of burgers on the grill, and the splash of fireworks in the sky on Independence Day.

But I also love how muted the world is during a heavy snowfall, and the rush of sledding down a steep hill, and stepping outside on a sparkling, cold morning.

And that's not all. I'm a huge fan of grey fall skies and flaring autumn leaves, and there is nothing quite like the smell of spring or the sight of the first brave little crocus.

I'm indecisive. I don't know which season I love most. But the absolute best part about the seasons is the way they change, and the variety they give us.

We use the metaphor of changing seasons for all kinds of things. We say we are in a particular season of life, or the heart, or our faith, and we don't always like where we are. Sometimes we do, of course, but regardless of our opinion, things still change, because "The seasons and all their changes are in us" (Henry David Thoreau). We have flip-flop seasons, and snow boot seasons, and everything in between.

And we need things that way. What would we do without the wisdom of those seasons, lined up in our minds like my housemates' collection of shoes in our entryway? Those shoe-seasons remind us of where we have been, and help to point us in the direction we want to go.

Find your lampstand

Sharon Hecker
Columnist

“Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”
Matthew 5:15-16

When I studied abroad in Argentina for two semesters, I saw things that I did not expect nor particularly want to see. I saw a huddle of tattered blankets perched beside embers dying in a tin can. I saw men, women and children rummaging through garbage bins, looking for dinner. I saw the ones who had thrown dinner away. I saw kids juggling for coins and fathers walking in slants, asking for money for their kids but really for their booze. I saw hunger; I saw excess. I saw eyes that looked at the world and said, “I can never be a part of that...”

And one day, I went for a run and saw a little girl with no shoes. She was sitting on a curb, hunched over her kneecaps so that strings of hair trailed down to her calves. I saw this in a glance. I even thought about stopping. I kept running. And what I discovered as my feet moved forward, leaving the little girl behind me, was that I wasn’t moving anywhere. My thoughts were dragging their toes at the curb where that little girl sat.

The only thing two things I could do were to keep running or turn back. One was unthinkable, the other unacceptable. I poked myself with the question stamped all over the lyrics in my ear buds: which would Jesus choose? I took a few more rebellious steps, and then I did what I knew I had to as an ambassador of God’s love: I turned back.

As it turns out, the little girl did have shoes. They looked about two sizes too small, but trash bins aren’t mini-malls. I felt stupid. I was very nervous. I felt stupid. And I didn’t have a clue what to say.

So I settled for “hola.”
“Hola....” she replied.
Her name was Melina. Once our smiles became a little less guarded, she remedied

my problem of not knowing what to say.
“You speak Engleesh?”
I nodded. That may have been my mistake. She demonstrated her ability to count to 10 in English, and then she asked me how high I can count. Oh, I don’t know. Probably I could count to a billion, if I felt like it. Oops. So that was my mistake.
“Hacélo!” Do it, she commanded, unabashed.
And while I didn’t quite make it to one billion, we did spend a lot of time counting. In fact, we just plain spent a lot of time together. After I found out she liked to read, I resolved to get her a new book before we parted. Something that wasn’t a hand-me-down or a trash bin treasure. Something that she got to pick out herself.
That day, I spent hours with Melina. We walked through Buenos Aires on a mission to find a bookstore. I bought her and her cousins lunch. She picked out a beautifully illustrated book of bedtime stories. We parted, and I knew I had done what was pleasing to the Lord. But I didn’t leave smiling; I left sobbing. It hurt to love strong and help so little.
In Matthew 5:15-16, Jesus explains the importance of letting our light shine. How do we do that? How do we let our light shine? Is it about singing on-key in church? About leaving the fattest wad on the collection plate? Is it about doing devotionals every morning before class?
And here’s a question. How do we spend ourselves? How do we spend our thoughts, our time, our money, our love and our energy? Do we save our love for the people we know, the people that love us back? Do we spare time from our commitments to take God’s work out of the church and put it into action? And how many opportunities do we pitter-patter past without ever giving them that crucial second thought?
These questions tell us where our light is. When I was in Argentina, I tried to pitter past an opportunity to reflect God’s love toward someone who needed it. But I didn’t. As a Christian, I couldn’t. So I turned back. I spent my energy, my time, my thoughts and my love on a little girl named Melina, and instead of hiding beneath a bowl, God’s love shone through me on a lamp stand. And who knows if she will read that picture book or remember that hot lunch, but at least my light was shining. Because that’s what it’s meant to do.

Hitting the books : Editor’s book choices 2012

Becca Hawkins
Voices Editor



There’s nothing I love more than cozying up with a cup of Tazo Passion tea, my Snuggie (yes, my Snuggie), and a good book...over Christmas Break. As soon as I get back to school, I ironically leave the books behind. I just don’t have time for reading.

However, that all changes this semester. While I have a lighter load of classes this semester, I have a heavier load of reading — at least one novel per week.

So, I must change my ways, and thus encourage you to join me.

Here’s my collection of books I love and books I can’t wait to read:

- “Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close” by Jonathan Safran Foer
- “The Glen Rock Book of the Dead” by Marion Winik
- “Our Schools Suck” by Gaston Alonso
- “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” by Stephen Chbosky
- “The Great Gatsby” by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- “The Philosophy of Andy Warhol” by Andy Warhol
- “I Feel Bad about my Neck” by Nora Ephron

Letter to the Editor : Follow up to Reflections on Christian Faith

Dr. Timothy Pennings
Professor of Mathematics



It was with delight that I read Dr. Kim Hawtrey's excellent letter (Nov. 23) listing out reasons for believing that the resurrection of Jesus historically occurred — and that Jesus is then the Christ. This is the kind of letter that should be peppering The Anchor. The value of such a letter lay in provoking responses. I will give a brief one — I hope others join the conversation as well.

The wording of Dr. Hawtrey's concluding paragraph should be noted. After listing out seven reasons for believing in the resurrection involving historical evidence and personal experience, he concludes that it is entirely reasonable to accept the resurrection as actual fact. I certainly agree.

In fact, though not overly familiar with the other major world religions, I would guess that similar arguments could be made for it being reasonable to accept them as being true as well.

Indeed, any religion that is obviously false (just like bad music) does not last too long. Anything that has stood the test of time and scrutiny likely has provided sufficient reason for one to believe it to be true.

Moreover, it then follows that is also reasonable to not believe in any of the major world religions. For if each religion has its sincere and devoted believers — at least some of whom are intelligent, reasonable people, and since the various

religions disagree on substantial matters, then it follows that many sincere, devoted, intelligent, reasonable people have come to the wrong conclusion — they believe something that is false. ``Could I be such a person?" seems an appropriate question to ask.

I personally believe in the possibility of intelligent extra-terrestrial life, but if anyone came to me with an account of having had contact with an alien life form, I would not readily believe them. Why? Because I know how easily people are fooled — and that others want to fool me. Just notice the lack of any Room 13 in motels or Floor 13 in hotels to see how readily people believe things with no basis.

In believing in the holy scriptures of any religion, one must initially place one's faith not in the deity, but in the scores of people — witnesses, writers, copiers, editors — people one has never met — who are providing the story. Only when one has first believed them, can one then consider whether to believe in the God to whom they claim to be witness.

So this raises several questions: How does one determine whether to believe these claims of other people - especially since they come with widely different accounts? Should one's own personal experience be factored in — even though followers of other religions also have validating personal experiences?

Finally, what does it mean to 'believe'? Does it mean just to accept what one is convinced of, or does it mean to accept as true what one is not entirely convinced of? Or is it less about being convinced and more about putting one's life on the line — living in such a way that one would not otherwise live? I invite others to take the baton from here.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Wednesday Jan. 18
Women's basketball
vs. Trine at 5:30 p.m.
Men's basketball
vs. Calvin at 8 p.m.

Friday Jan. 20
Swimming
vs. Grand Valley State at 5 p.m.

Saturday Jan. 21
Women's basketball
vs. Albion at 3 p.m.
Men's basketball
vs. Olivet at 7:30 p.m.
Hockey
vs. Kettering at Edge Ice Arena at 8:45 p.m.

IN BRIEF

FLYING DUTCH ESCAPE AT ADRIAN

The women's basketball team went to Adrian on Saturday and came out victorious, 59-56. A Bulldog lead of 22-15 with five minutes remaining in the first stanza was cut to one by the half (29-28). The second half consisted of back-and-forth play, with neither team leading by more than four points. A jumper nailed by Allie Cerone ('12) at the 1:36 mark put Hope up 58-54, which lead to the 59-56 win.

The Flying Dutch were led by Rebekah Llorens ('15), who scored 13 points and grabbed six boards off the bench.

Hope improved to 6-1 in the MIAA and 13-2 overall. They will host Trine on Wednesday at De-Vos at 5:30 p.m.

HOPE PLAYERS IN HANSEN SENIOR BOWL

Two senior Hope football players, Alex Doman and Josh Droppers, will participate in the Hansen Senior Bowl on Jan. 18 at the Virginia Beach Sportsplex in Virginia Beach, Va. Formerly known as the Aztec Bowl, it is an allstar game for players in all levels below NCAA Division I FCS. Hope last sent players to this game in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

Bunn makes comeback on court, in classroom

Katherine Maguire
GUEST WRITER

Mouth set in determination, Peter Bunn ('12) led the Hope College men's basketball team running the length of the court four times in 22 seconds during a recent practice.

"As far as I'm concerned, he's back," David Krombeen ('12), team co-captain, said.

Bunn was injured in early fall of 2009 after crashing his BMX bike while doing stunts in his backyard. He sat out last basketball season to focus on improving his health and academics.

"It was so frustrating," Bunn said. "I just wanted to play basketball."

Now Bunn is back on the court and continuing to improve there and in the classroom.

In 2008, Bunn transferred to Hope College from Oakland University as a sophomore and started for Hope's team. In his first year, he helped the team win the conference championship and was named first team all-region and all-conference.

"He is a competitor for sure," Logan Neil ('12), team co-captain, said. "We would always try to match up with each other just because we wanted the challenge."

However, the accident put Bunn's successful basketball career on hold.

"I felt out of shape after running at practice and my

focus, my attention, my short-term memory was not there," Bunn said.

Bunn struggled academically as well. He didn't know what was happening but he knew something was wrong.

"I would just stare at the computer screen," Bunn said. "Some days I would feel like I could write so I would try to write. Then I would look back at it and the words and sentences were all scrambled."

After talking to friends and family about his symptoms, Bunn suspected a concussion and specialists later confirmed it.

Tom Davelaar, the team's assistant coach of 30 years, has been watching Bunn's recovery closely.

"Each day he is getting a little bit better," Davelaar said. "We are happy to have him back."

Bunn, an English major, is also improving in the classroom. His grades are better, but it is a slow process.

"I have to try to get a B when I never really tried before," Bunn said. "I am just trying to improve them and be patient as well."

For head coach Matt Neil, physical and mental health is first and foremost.

"I would like for him to feel that he was very successful in the classroom first and on the basketball court second," Neil said.

Bunn's has appreciated Hope's supportive community



PHOTO BY AUSTIN TIMYAN
DRIVE— Pete Bunn ('12) became the 34th Hope player to score 1,000 career points against Kalamazoo on Jan. 14.

during his recovery.

"I would just like to say thanks to Dean Jon Huisken and Registrar Carol De Jong, Coach Neil and Coach Glenn Van Wieren, and all my professors who helped me through this," Bunn said. "They advocated and made accommodations. I really

appreciate what they did."

Always the competitor, Bunn has big plans for his last season.

"I hope to have my best season yet," Bunn said.

"He is starting to play like the Pete he used to be and that is one heck of a player," Krombeen said.

Swim teams prepare for MIAA championships

Bethany Stripp
SPORTS EDITOR

With two meets left before the MIAA championships, the men's and women's swimming and diving teams are working to finish the season strong.

Last year was the first time since 2007 that the men's team did not walk away from the league meet as MIAA champions, and co-captain Patrick Frayer ('12) says the team hopes to change that this year.

"Our goal is to win the MIAA championship in February," Frayer said. "It will be difficult and right now it looks like Kalamazoo College will be our



Patrick Frayer



Sarah Sohn

toughest competitor."

The men's team is currently 2-3 in dual meets, having defeated Carthage and Albion early in the season and falling to Olivet, Calvin and Kalamazoo. The team claimed first in a field of four in the Illinois-Michigan Quad hosted by Wheaton College, topping Lake Forest, Wheaton and rival Kalamazoo.

"Anytime we swim Kalamazoo is important because for the last several years they have been our biggest competition at the conference meet at the end of the year," men's co-captain Aaron Rittenhouse ('12) said.

Hope's men claimed six first place spots at the meet with Andrew Rose ('12), Nick Hazekamp ('13) and Jeff Shade ('12) taking first in one event

each. The 400 medley relay team of Hazekamp, Geoff Ludema ('13), Brian Yount ('12) and Frayer ('12) topped Kalamazoo's team in the same event by nearly two seconds. Frayer also finished first in the 100- and 50-yard freestyle. His win in the 50 was the third such win for him this season.

"[Frayer] is our best sprinter and is vital to our team and our relays," Rittenhouse said. "He has improved personally and really stepped up for the team both in his individual events and on any relay that we put him on. He knows when it's time to race and he never fails to put his game face on and get up for big races."

The women's team holds a 4-2 record so far this season. In the

Illinois-Michigan Quad on Jan. 14, the women also had a chance to swim against Kalamazoo, who they defeated by nine points in their first meeting on Jan. 8 and who team co-captain Chelsea Wiese ('12) expects to be Hope's biggest competition for second or third place at the MIAA championship meet.

Kalamazoo topped the Flying Dutch by 16.5 points in the meet after Hope beat the Hornets by 11 points on Jan. 6. Co-captains Libby Westrate ('13) and Sarah Sohn ('12) both finished first in various events, with Westrate taking the top spot in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles and Sohn winning the 500 freestyle. Wiese pointed to Westrate and Sohn as two swimmers whose efforts have particularly stood out this season.

"Libby Westrate and Sarah Sohn both have always been the anchors to the team," Wiese said. "This year Erin Hostad ('13) has also really stepped up. We lost a big senior class and she's filled in the gaps in different events and done really well."

The men's and women's teams will wrap up their regular home season on Jan. 20 when they host Grand Valley State in the Dow.

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